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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/573,912

03/30/2006

Seog Ho Go

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30827

7590

03/23/2009

MCKENNA LONG & ALDRIDGE LLP
1900 K STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20006

EXAMINER

BROWN, VERNAL U

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2612

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

03/23/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/573,912	Applicant(s) GO ET AL.	
	Examiner VERNAL U. BROWN	Art Unit 2612	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 March 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 March 2006 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

The application of Seog Ho Go for Remote Control system for home appliance and method the same filed 3/30/06 has been examined. Claims 1-21 are pending.

Specification

The abstract of the disclosure does not commence on a separate sheet in accordance with 37 CFR 1.52(b)(4). A new abstract of the disclosure is required and must be presented on a separate sheet, apart from any other text.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-2, 5-7, 13-14, 18-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ioku UK Patent Application Publication 2265158.

Regarding claims 1-2 and 13-14, 18-21, Ioku teaches a remote control system for a home appliance comprising:

a remote control home appliance such as a washing machine install in a place remote from a user's place (page 1 lines 1-5);

a monitoring device connected to the washing machine to receive/transmit data to/from the home appliance (page. 2 lines 11-22, page. 3 lines 1-7);

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a remote controller wirelessly connected to the monitoring device for controlling operation of the washing machine (col. 2 lines 3-6).

Regarding claim 5, Ioku teaches the monitoring unit comprises an input unit for enabling the setting of the appliance (page. 2 lines 11-22, page. 3 lines 1-7).

Regarding claims 6-7, Ioku teaches the remote controller comprises:

an input unit having a plurality of buttons for inputting control (page 6 lines 5-7);

an infrared communication module for transmitting data to the monitoring device and a display for displaying the operational state of the washing machine (page 6 lines 5-25).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ioku UK

Patent Application Publication 2265158 in view of Van Steenbrugge US Patent 5579496.

Regarding claims 3-4, Ioku teaches a display unit for displaying the operating state of the washing machine (page 3 lines 1-7);

an infrared communication module for communicating with the remote controller (page 9 lines 12-21). Ioku is silent on teaching a microprocessor and a data storage unit for storing data.

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Van Steenbrugge in an analogous art teaches a washing machine comprising a microprocessor and data storage unit for storing for storing received data (col. 3 lines 30-40).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the system of Ioku as disclosed by Van Steenbrugge because a microprocessor provides an efficient control of the operation of the washing machine.

Claims 8-12, 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ioku UK Patent Application Publication 2265158 in view of Daum et al. US Patent Application Publication 20020097851.

Regarding claims 8-12, 15-16, Ioku teaches a remote controller wirelessly connected to the monitoring device for controlling operation of the washing machine (col. 2 lines 3-6) and a display unit for displaying the operating state of the washing machine (page 3 lines 1-7). Ioku is silent on teaching a power line modem for enabling data transmission and reception. Daum et al. in an analogous art teaches the use of a power line modem for the transmission and reception of control signals for an appliance (paragraph 006, 022).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the system of Ioku as disclosed by Daum et al. because communicating over the power line allows connection to all the appliances connected to the power line and avoid the additional cost of installing communication medium.

Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ioku UK Patent Application Publication 2265158 in view of. Bertsch US Patent 5570085.

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Regarding claim 17, Ioku is silent on teaching one device connected to the power line and another device connected to the communication cable. Bertsch in an analogous art teaches the use of power line and communication cable as a communication medium in a home network (col. 1 lines 63-67).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have one device connected to the power line and another device connected to the communication cable in Ioku because the power line and communication cable provides for an effective communication means and the communication means is selected base on the interface unit provided by the appliances.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to VERNAL U. BROWN whose telephone number is (571)272-3060. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-7:00 Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Zimmerman can be reached on 571-272-3059. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Vernal U Brown/
Examiner, Art Unit 2612
March 9, 2009